

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 00467 111750Z

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 SY-10 EB-11 COME-00 PA-04 PRS-01

USIA-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SS-20 NSC-10

L-03 ARA-16 USSS-00 DODE-00 H-03 PM-07 DRC-01 /148 W

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R 111655Z JAN 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2668

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 0467

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS IT BBAK

SUBJECT: ROME BOMB ATTACKS ON ITT SUBSIDIARIES

1. AT BRIEF INTERVALS AFTER MIDNIGHT JANUARY 11 BOMBS WERE THROWN AT THREE ROME BUILDINGS HOUSING ITT SUBSIDIARIES. IN APPARENTLY RELATED ATTACK, TRUCK BELONGING TO ITALIAN TELEPHONE LINE MAINTENANCE FIRM NOT RPT NOT, HOWEVER, AFFILIATED WITH ITT, WAS BURNED.

2. FIRST ATTACK HEAVILY DAMAGED COMPUTER CENTER OF SMALL ITALIAN BUSINESS CONSULTING FIRM IN BUILDING HOUSING SEVERAL US COMPANIES (INCLUDING ABC AND PEPSI COLA). OFFICES OF ITT SUBSIDIARY, FACE STANDARD (MANUFACTURERS OF ELECTRIC AND ELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT) ON THIRD FLOOR OF BUILDING ESCAPED DAMAGE. SECOND AND THIRD EXPLOSIONS DAMAGED FACADE OF ITT OWNED INTERCONTINENTAL INSURANCE COMPANY AND BROKE WINDOWS IN WAREHOUSE OF FACE STANDARD SUBSIDIARY, SIETTE SPA, A TELEPHONE INSTALLATION COMPANY.

3. ANTI-ITT POLITICAL MOTIVATION FOR ATTACKS, WHICH PROBABLY INVOLVED MORE THAN ONE TEAM OF BOMBERS, WAS MADE CLEAR BY NOTE FOUND AT SCENE OF TRUCK FIRE. NOTE IN ITALIAN READ "ITT IS FOCAL POINT OF THE (FORCES OF) REACTION AND (IS) THE HAND OF THE AMERICAN SECURITY SERVICES. IT IS THE ITT THAT ORGANIZED THE COUP D'ETAT IN CHILE AND THAT ORGANIZED THE

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PAGE 02 ROME 00467 111750Z

TELEPHONE TAPPING IN ITALY IN ORDER TO PREPARE ALSO HERE A

REACTIONARY SWING IN ACCORD WITH THE FASCISTS. THE WORKING CLASS WILL BAR THE PASSAGE AGAINST REACTION AND WILL STRIKE HARD AT THE VIOLENCE OF THE GOVERNMENT, OF THE FASCISTS AND OF THE CIA. THE CLASS STRUGGLE WILL CAUSE THE FAILURE OF EVERY RREACTIONARY PROJECT FOR SOCIAL PEACE (PACE SOCIALE) AND POLICE DETENTION (FERMO DI POLIZIA)" BURNED TRUCK BELONGED TO COMPANY WHICH, ALTHOUGH NOT OWNED BY ITT, WAS INVOLVED TOGETHER WITH SIETTE SPA IN LEFT WING CHARGES LAST YEAR OF COLLABORATION WITH ALLEGED POLICE PHONE TAPPING OPERATIONS.

4. ITT HAS BEEN TARGET OF FREQUENT ATTACKS IN LEFT WING PRESS SINCE CHILE COUP. ITT SOURCE STATES THAT COMPANY HAS NOT RECENTLY RECEIVED THREATS, ALTHOUGH SMALL BOMB WAS SET OFF SOME MONTHS AGO AT ROME OFFICE OF ITT SWISS SUBSIDIARY. HOWEVER, SOURCE SAID THAT PROMISING ITT INITIATIVE TO HELP SOUTHERN ITALIAN ELECTRONICS COMPANIES MARKET THEIR PRODUCTS ABROAD THROUGH ITT FELL THROUGH AFTER CHILE EVENTS - APPARENTLY AS DIRECT RESULT OF ADVERSE PUBLICITY ITT RECEIVED.

5. COMMUNIST PARTY ORGAN, L'UNITA, DENOUNCED ATTACKS AS PROVOCATION DESIGNED TO STIR UP CLIMATE OF TENSION. (COMMENT: AT TIME WHEN PCI HEAVILY ENGAGED IN TRYING TO BUILD ANTI-FASCIST FRONT WITH DEMOCRATIC PARTIES AND IN ENHANCING ITS NON-EXTREMIST IMAGE, ATTACK IS SURELY UNWELCOME TO COMMUNISTS, DESPITE IDENTITY OF ITS VICTIM.) VOLPE

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